

General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 1059

January Session, 2021



AN ACT CONCERNING THE OFFICE OF THE CORRECTION OMBUDS, THE USE OF ISOLATED CONFINEMENT, SECLUSION AND RESTRAINTS, SOCIAL CONTACTS FOR INCARCERATED PERSONS AND TRAINING AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION BENEFITS FOR CORRECTION OFFICERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Section 18-81jj of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):
- 3 (a) (1) There is, within the Office of Governmental Accountability
- 4 <u>established under section 1-300, the Office of the Correction Ombuds for</u>
- 5 <u>the provision of ombuds services.</u>
- 6 [(a)] (2) For [the] purposes of this section, ["ombudsman services"]
- 7 <u>"ombuds services"</u> includes:
- 8 [(1) the receipt of] (A) Evaluating the delivery of services to
- 9 <u>incarcerated persons by the Department of Correction, its contractors</u>
- 10 and other entities that provide services to people detained in
- 11 correctional institutions or halfway houses through funding provided
- 12 by the state;
- 13 (B) Reviewing periodically the procedures established by the
- 14 Department of Correction to carry out the provisions of title 18 with a
- 15 view toward the rights of incarcerated persons;

16	(C) Receiving complaints [by the ombudsman] from persons
17	[eighteen years of age or younger] in the custody of the Commissioner
18	of Correction regarding decisions, actions, omissions, policies,
19	procedures, rules or regulations of the Department of Correction; [.]

- [(2) investigating] (D) Investigating such complaints, rendering a decision on the merits of each complaint and communicating the decision to the complainant; [, (3) recommending]
- 23 <u>(E) Recommending</u> to the commissioner a resolution of any complaint found to have merit; [, (4) recommending]
- 25 <u>(F) Reviewing the operation of facilities and procedures employed at</u> 26 <u>such facilities where a person may be housed who is in the custody of</u> 27 the commissioner;
- 28 <u>(G) Providing assistance including, but not limited to, advocating</u> 29 <u>with a department or service provider or others on behalf of the</u> 30 <u>incarcerated person;</u>
- 31 <u>(H) Recommending procedure and policy revisions to the</u> 32 department; [, and (5) publishing]
- 33 (I) Taking all possible actions, including, but not limited to,
 34 conducting programs of public education, undertaking legislative
 35 advocacy and making proposals for systemic reform and formal legal
 36 action, in order to secure and ensure the rights of persons in the custody
 37 of the commissioner; and
- 38 <u>(I) Publishing</u> a quarterly report of all [ombudsman] <u>ombuds</u> services 39 and activities.
 - (b) [The Commissioner of Correction shall hire a person to provide ombudsman services and shall annually report the name of such person to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the Department of Correction in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a. In addition to the

41

42

43

45	executive assistant positions authorized under subdivision (10) of
46	section 5-198, the commissioner may hire an executive assistant to carry
47	out the duties of this section.] (1) Not later than October 1, 2021, and
48	upon any vacancy in the position of Correction Ombuds, the Governor
49	shall nominate a person qualified by training and experience to perform
50	and lead the office of Correction Ombuds. Any nomination by the
51	Governor for appointment of Correction Ombuds shall be referred,
52	without debate, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
53	having cognizance of matters relating to corrections which shall report
54	on each appointment not later than thirty days after the date of
55	reference. Each such appointment by the General Assembly shall be by
56	concurrent resolution.

- (2) The person appointed as Correction Ombuds shall serve for an initial term of two years and may be reappointed for succeeding terms.
- (3) Upon any vacancy in the position of Correction Ombuds and until
 such time as a candidate has been confirmed by the General Assembly
 or, if the General Assembly is not in session, the candidate designated
 for appointment by the Governor shall serve as the acting Correction
 Ombuds and be entitled to the compensation, privileges and powers of
 the Correction Ombuds until the General Assembly meets to take action
 on said appointment.
- 66 (4) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the 67 Correction Ombuds shall act independently of any department in the 68 performance of the office's duties.
- (5) The Correction Ombuds may, within available funds, appoint
 such staff as may be deemed necessary. The duties of the staff may
 include the duties and powers of the Correction Ombuds if performed
 under the direction of the Correction Ombuds.
- (6) The General Assembly shall annually appropriate such sums as
 necessary for the payment of the salaries of the staff and for the payment
 of office expenses and other actual expenses incurred by the Correction

- 76 Ombuds in the performance of his or her duties. Any legal or court fees
- obtained by the state in actions brought by the Correction Ombuds shall
- 78 <u>be deposited in the General Fund.</u>

85

86

87

88

89

90

91

92

93

94

95

96

97

98

99

100

101

102

103

104

105

106

- 79 (7) The Correction Ombuds shall annually submit, in accordance with 80 the provisions of section 11-4a, to the Governor and the joint standing 81 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters 82 relating to corrections, public health and human services a detailed 83 report analyzing the work of the Office of the Correction Ombuds.
 - (c) Prior to any person [eighteen years of age or younger] in the custody of the Commissioner of Correction obtaining [ombudsman] ombuds services, such person shall have reasonably pursued a resolution of the complaint through any existing internal grievance of appellate procedures of the Department of Correction.
 - (d) All oral and written communications, and records relating to such communications between a person [eighteen years of age or younger] in the custody of the Commissioner of Correction and the [ombudsman] Correction Ombuds or a member of the [ombudsman's] Office of the Correction Ombuds staff, including, but not limited to, the identity of a complainant, the details of a complaint and the investigative findings and conclusions of the [ombudsman] Correction Ombuds shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed without the consent of the person, except that the [ombudsman] Correction Ombuds may disclose without the consent of the person (1) such communications or records as may be necessary for the [ombudsman] Correction Ombuds to conduct an investigation and support any recommendations the ombudsman may make, or (2) the formal disposition of a person's complaint when requested in writing by a court that is hearing such person's application for a writ of habeas corpus that was filed subsequent to an adverse finding by the [ombudsman] Correction Ombuds on such person's complaint.
 - (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (d) of this section, whenever in the course of providing [ombudsman] <u>ombuds</u> services,

- the [ombudsman] <u>Correction Ombuds</u> or a member of the [ombudsman's] <u>Office of the Correction Ombuds</u> staff becomes aware of the commission or planned commission of a criminal act or a threat to the health and safety of any person or the security of a correctional facility, the [ombudsman] <u>Correction Ombuds</u> shall notify the Commissioner of Correction or a facility administrator of such act or threat and the nature and target of the act or threat.
 - (f) If the Commissioner of Correction has a reasonable belief that a person [eighteen years of age or younger] in the custody of the commissioner has made or provided to the [ombudsman] <u>Correction Ombuds</u> an oral or written communication concerning a safety or security threat within the Department of Correction or directed against an employee of the department, the [ombudsman] <u>Correction Ombuds</u> shall provide to the commissioner all oral or written communications relevant to such threat.
 - (g) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes concerning the confidentiality of records and information, the Correction Ombuds shall have access to, including the right to inspect and copy, any records necessary to carry out the responsibilities of the Correction Ombuds as provided in subsection (a) of this section. If the Correction Ombuds is denied access to any records necessary to carry out said responsibilities, he or she may issue a subpoena for the production of such records as provided in subsection (i) of this section.
 - (h) In the performance of his or her responsibilities under subsection (a) of this section, the Correction Ombuds may communicate privately with any person in the custody of the commissioner. Such communications shall be confidential.
 - (i) The Correction Ombuds may issue subpoenas to compel the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of books, papers and other documents and to administer oaths to witnesses in any matter under his or her investigation. If any person to whom such subpoena is issued fails to appear or, having appeared, refuses to give

- testimony or fails to produce the evidence required, the Correction 140 141 Ombuds may apply to the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford which shall have jurisdiction to order such person to appear 142 143 and give testimony or to produce such evidence, as the case may be.
- 144 (j) The Correction Ombuds may apply for and accept grants, gifts and bequests of funds from other states, federal and interstate agencies and 145 146 independent authorities and private firms, individuals and foundations, 147 for the purpose of carrying out his or her responsibilities. There is established within the General Fund a Correction Ombuds account 148 which shall be a separate nonlapsing account. Any funds received under 149 this subsection shall, upon deposit in the General Fund, be credited to 150 151 said account and may be used by the Correction Ombuds in the performance of his or her duties. 152
- 153 (k) The name, address and other personally identifiable information of a person who makes a complaint to the Correction Ombuds and all 154 155 information obtained or generated by the office in the course of an 156 investigation and all confidential records obtained by the Correction 157 Ombuds or a designee shall be confidential and shall not be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act or otherwise, except 158 159 that such information and records, other than confidential information 160 concerning a pending law enforcement investigation or a pending 161 prosecution, may be disclosed if the Correction Ombuds determines 162 that disclosure is (1) in the general public interest, or (2) necessary to 163 enable the Correction Ombuds to perform his or her responsibilities under subsection (a) of this section. 164
- 165 (l) No state or municipal agency shall discharge, or in any manner discriminate or retaliate against, any employee who in good faith makes 167 a complaint to the Correction Ombuds or cooperates with the Office of the Correction Ombuds in an investigation.
- 169 (m) The state of Connecticut shall protect and hold harmless any attorney, director, investigator, social worker or other person employed 170 171 by the Office of the Correction Ombuds and any volunteer appointed

						_	_			
172	hw tha	Correction (Ombude	from	financial	loce	and	avnanca	inclu	ıdina
1/4	DV LILE	COLLECTION	Ombuus	пош	mianciai	1055	anu	CYDCHSC	\mathbf{H}	เนมเย

- legal fees and costs, if any, arising out of any claim, demand or suit for
- 174 damages resulting from acts or omissions committed in the discharge of
- 175 <u>his or her duties with the program within the scope of his or her</u>
- 176 employment or appointment which may constitute negligence but
- which acts are not wanton, malicious or grossly negligent as determined
- by a court of competent jurisdiction.
- (n) The Office of the Correction Ombuds shall conduct a study
- 180 regarding the conditions in the state's correctional facilities and halfway
- 181 houses. Not later than October 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the
- 182 Correction Ombuds shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-
- 4a to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
- 184 <u>cognizance of matters relating to corrections regarding the conditions of</u>
- confinement in the state's correctional facilities and halfway houses.
- Sec. 2. Section 18-96b of the general statutes is repealed and the
- following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):
- 188 (a) As used in this section:
- (1) "Abuse" means any act or omission by a department employee or
- 190 a person working under a contract or as a volunteer with the
- 191 department who acts or fails to act knowingly, recklessly or
- intentionally, each as defined in section 53a-3, and which act or omission
- 193 caused, or could have caused mental harm, physical injury or death to
- an incarcerated person;
- [(1)] (2) "Administrative segregation status" means the Department of
- 196 Correction's practice of placing an inmate on restrictive housing status
- 197 following a determination that such inmate can no longer be safely
- 198 managed within the general inmate population of the correctional
- 199 facility; [and]
- 200 (3) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Correction;
- 201 (4) "De-escalation" means to effectively defuse a crisis without the use

of force by using tactics learned through training to recognize and
respond to emotions;
(5) "Department" means the Department of Correction;
(6) "Form and phase of housing" means any status, restrictive or
otherwise, that an incarcerated person may experience while in the
custody of the commissioner;
(7) "Incarcerated person" means a person confined and in the custody
and care of the Commissioner of Correction, including those persons in
pretrial, presentencing or post-conviction confinement;
(8) "Isolated confinement" means confinement of an incarcerated
person in a cell, alone or with others, for more than sixteen hours per
day;
(9) "Life-threatening physical restraint" means any physical restraint
or hold of a person that (A) restricts the flow of air into a person's lungs,
whether by chest compression or any other means, or (B) immobilizes
or reduces the free movement of a person's arms, legs or head while the
person is in the prone position;
(10) "Medical professional" means (A) A physician licensed under
chapter 370; (B) a physician assistant licensed under chapter 370; or (C)
an advanced practice registered nurse, registered nurse or practical
nurse licensed under chapter 378;
(11) "Member of a vulnerable population" means any incarcerated
person who:
(A) Is twenty-one years of age or younger, or sixty-five years of age
or older;
(B) Has a mental disability, as defined in section 53a-181i, a history of
psychiatric hospitalization, or has recently exhibited self-harming
conduct, including, but not limited to, self-mutilation;

230	(C) Has a developmental disability, as defined in section 17b-28;
231	(D) Has a serious medical condition that cannot be effectively treated
232	in isolated confinement;
233	(E) Is pregnant, is in the postpartum period, or has recently suffered
234	a miscarriage or terminated a pregnancy; or
235	(F) Has a significant auditory or visual impairment;
236	(12) "Neglect" means a negligent act or omission by any staff member
237	or volunteer which caused, or may have caused, injury or death to an
238	incarcerated person;
239	(13) "Pharmacological restraint" means a drug or medication when
240	used to manage a person's behavior or restrict a person's freedom of
241	movement and not as a standard treatment or administered in a dosage
242	appropriate for the patient's condition;
243	(14) "Physician" means a physician, licensed pursuant to chapter 370
244	(15) "Psychiatric emergency" means an event during which a person
245	poses a substantiated threat of imminent physical harm to himself or
246	herself or another person due to an acute disturbance of behavior,
247	thought or mood;
248	(16) "Physical Restraint" means any mechanical device used to control
249	the movement of an incarcerated person's body or limbs, including, but
250	not limited to, flex cuffs, soft restraints, hard metal handcuffs, a black
251	box, leg irons, belly chains, a security chain or a convex shield, but does
252	not include any medical device or helmet, mitt or similar device used to
253	prevent self-injury when the device is part of a documented treatment
254	plan and is the least restrictive means available to prevent such self-
255	<u>injury;</u>
256	(17) "Seclusion" means involuntary confinement of an incarcerated
257	person as a patient in a separate room, subject to close medical

258	supervision for the purpose of protecting the patient and others from
259	<u>harm;</u>
260	(18) "Serious incident" means any of the following:
261	(A) An attack on a department building or facility conducted from
262	outside of the building or facility;
263	(B) A significant breach of a department building or facility
264	perimeter;
265	(C) Possession of firearms, ammunition or explosives by an
266	incarcerated person or a visitor to a department building or facility;
267	(D) A death of an on-duty department employee, a person working
268	under a contract or as a volunteer with the department or a visitor to a
269	department building or facility or an unnatural death of an incarcerated
270	person;
271	(E) An injury to an on-duty department employee, a person working
272	under a contract or as a volunteer with the department, a visitor to a
273	department building or facility or an incarcerated person that results in
274	such person's admission to an acute care hospital;
275	(F) A riot or hostage situation at a department building or facility;
276	(G) A major fire at a department building or facility;
277	(H) A bomb threat directed at a department building or facility;
278	(I) A suspected bio-chemical contamination of a department building
279	or facility;
280	(J) Any suspected, attempted or confirmed escape of an incarcerated
281	person from a correctional facility or work detail or during transport,
282	including any such escape reported by a member of the public;
283	(K) Any incident requiring a unit to be placed on alert or mobilized

284	in response to an emergency at a department building or facility;
285	(L) An intentional or accidental discharge of a firearm at a
286	department building or facility, other than during training;
287	(M) Use of a category 2 chemical agent at a department building or
288	facility, as categorized in standards adopted by the federal Occupational
289	Safety and Health Administration, for purposes other than those
290	approved for building, facility or equipment maintenance;
291	(N) An event that seriously impacts normal operation of the
292	department such as a health emergency, power outage, any major
293	destruction or disablement of state property or an incident requiring an
294	unplanned lockdown of a department facility;
295	(O) A terrorist threat or intelligence of suspected terrorist activity;
296	(P) An instance of workplace violence or threat of workplace violence
297	in any workplace or as part of any work detail requiring the immediate
298	separation of incarcerated persons due to an imminent threat of
299	violence;
300	(Q) A reported sexual abuse of an incarcerated person or a
301	department employee or a person working under a contract or as a
302	volunteer with the department committed on or by an incarcerated
303	person or a staff member or a person working as a volunteer with the
304	department, where there is immediate evidence or indication that sexual
305	abuse has occurred; or
306	(R) A suicide attempt by an incarcerated person requiring immediate
307	<u>life-saving measures;</u>
308	(19) "Restraint" includes any pharmacological restraint, physical
309	restraint or soft restraint;
310	[(2)] (20) "Restrictive housing status" means [the designation of an
311	inmate by the Department of Correction that provides for closely

312	regulated management and separation of such inmate from other
313	inmates.] any classification that requires closely regulated management
314	and separation of an incarcerated person and includes, but is not limited
315	to, following correctional statuses: Administrative segregation, punitive
316	segregation, transfer detention, administrative detention, security risk
317	group, chronic discipline, special needs and protective custody;
318	(21) "Soft restraint" means any physical restraint constructed of
319	padded, quilted or pliable materials, but does not include, flex cuffs,
320	handcuffs, a black box, leg irons, a belly chain or a security chain;
321	(22) "Staff member" means an employee, contractor or subcontractor
322	of the department;
323	(23) "Therapist" means any (A) physician licensed pursuant to
324	chapter 370 who specializes in psychiatry, (B) psychologist licensed
325	pursuant to chapter 383, (C) marital and family therapist licensed
326	pursuant to chapter 383a, (D) clinical social worker or master social
327	worker licensed pursuant to chapter 383b, or (E) professional counselor
328	licensed pursuant to chapter 383c;
329	(24) "Unique individual" means a person who, for data collection
330	purposes, is associated with a unique identifier that is anonymized; and
331	(25) "Use of force" means the use of physical force or deadly physical
332	force, as defined in section 53a-3, by a staff member to compel
333	compliance by an incarcerated person. "Use of force" includes, but is not
334	limited to, the use of restraints, chemical agents, canines, chokeholds or
335	munitions or forceable extraction from a cell.
336	(b) (1) Each incarcerated person shall have the opportunity to be
337	outside of his or her cell for at least eight hours each day, except in the
338	case of an incarcerated person held in seclusion pursuant to subsection
339	(d) of this section or except as provided in subdivision (2) of this
340	subsection or in response to (A) a serious incident resulting in a
341	correctional facility-wide lockdown, (B) a substantiated threat of
342	imminent physical harm to another person as evidenced by recent

343	conduct; or (C) an incarcerated person's request for segregation for such
344	person's protection.
345	(2) Prior to holding any incarcerated person in isolated confinement
346	due to one of the situations described in subparagraph (A), (B) or (C) of
347	subdivision (1) of this subsection, (A) a physician shall personally
348	conduct a physical examination and a therapist shall personally conduct
349	a mental health evaluation to determine whether such person is a
350	member of a vulnerable population, and (B) the department shall
351	attempt to defuse the instant situation by using de-escalation methods
352	and less restrictive measures. Only if such methods and measures fail to
353	defuse the instant situation may the department hold a person in
354	isolated confinement.
355	(3) If holding an incarcerated person in isolated confinement, the
356	department shall:
357	(A) Ensure continuous monitoring to ensure the person's safety and
358	well-being;
359	(B) Ensure that any person held in isolated confinement shall have
360	sufficient and regular access to a toilet, water, food, light, air and heat;
361	(C) Continue de-escalation efforts; and
362	(D) End isolated confinement of the person as soon as the threat of
363	the serious incident or of imminent physical harm to others has passed
364	or such person no longer requests segregation for such person's
365	protection.
366	(4) The department shall not subject any incarcerated person to
367	isolated confinement (A) because of the incarcerated person's race,
368	creed, color, national origin, nationality, ancestry, age, marital status,
369	domestic partnership or civil union status, affectional or sexual
370	orientation, genetic information, pregnancy or breastfeeding status, sex,
371	gender identity or expression, disability or atypical hereditary cellular
372	or blood trait, or (B) for any continuous period longer than seventy-two

- hours, or for more than seventy-two hours during any fourteen-day period.
- 375 (5) No staff member with a rank lower than captain may order an 376 incarcerated person to be held in isolated confinement. A staff member 377 with a rank of captain or higher or the commissioner or deputy 378 commissioner may order an incarcerated person to be held in isolated 379 confinement for an initial period of not more than eight hours. Only a staff member with a rank of deputy warden or warden or the 380 381 commissioner or deputy commissioner may order the continuation of a period of isolated confinement in increments of no more than eight 382 hours and not more than a total of forty-eight hours. Only the 383 384 commissioner or deputy commissioner may order the continuation of a 385 period of isolated confinement of not more than a total of seventy-two 386 hours.
- 387 (c) (1) The department shall not subject an incarcerated person to the use of (A) life-threatening restraints, (B) pharmacological restraints, 388 389 except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, or (C) physical 390 restraints except as provided in subsection (d) of this section or 391 subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection for the purpose of (i) transporting the incarcerated person between units or outside the 392 393 correctional facility, or (ii) responding to a substantiated threat of 394 imminent physical harm to another person as evidenced by recent 395 conduct.
 - (2) Prior to subjecting any incarcerated person to the use of physical restraints pursuant to clause (ii) of subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of this subsection and subdivision (3) of this subsection, the department shall attempt to defuse the instant situation by using de-escalation methods and less restrictive measures. Only if such methods and measures fail to defuse the instant situation may the department subject a person to the use of physical restraints, except as restricted pursuant to section 18-69c.
- 404 (3) If subjecting an incarcerated person to physical restraints

397

398

399400

401

405	pursuant to clause (ii) of subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of this
406	subsection, the department shall:
407	(A) Ensure continuous monitoring to ensure the person's safety and
408	well-being, including requiring a medical professional to check the
409	imposition of restraints and every two hours thereafter to ensure
410	adequate circulation and range of movement to avoid pain and to
411	permit the incarcerated person to perform necessary bodily functions,
412	including breathing, eating, drinking, standing, lying down, sitting and
413	using the toilet;
414	(B) Ensure that no physical restraints are imposed upon an
415	incarcerated inmate who is showering or exercising;
416	(C) Continue de-escalation efforts; and
417	(D) End the use of physical restraints on the incarcerated person as
418	soon as the threat of the serious incident or imminent physical harm to
419	others has passed.
420	(4) No staff member with a rank lower than captain may subject an
421	incarcerated person to the use of physical restraints. A staff member
422	with a rank of captain or higher may order an incarcerated person to be
423	subjected to the use of physical restraints for an initial period of not
424	more than two hours. Only a staff member with a rank of deputy
425	warden or warden or the commissioner or deputy commissioner may
426	order the use of physical restraints upon such person for an additional
427	period of not more than two hours, provided no incarcerated person is
428	subjected to physical restraints for more than four hours in any twenty-
429	four-hour period.
430	(d) (1) The department may subject an incarcerated person to the use
431	of seclusion or restraints in response to a psychiatric emergency
432	pursuant to subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection, provided a
433	therapist attempts to defuse the instant situation by using de-escalation
434	methods and less restrictive measures and such methods and measures
435	fail to defuse the instant situation.

436	(2) If subjecting an incarcerated person to seclusion or restraints in
437	response to a psychiatric emergency pursuant to this subsection, the
438	<u>department shall:</u>
439	(A) Ensure any such seclusion occurs or restraints are imposed only
440	within medical units of the correctional facility;
441	(B) Ensure that the only restraints employed are soft restraints or
442	pharmacological restraints;
443	(C) Ensure that no (i) soft restraints be employed if pharmacological
444	restraints have already been administered and have alleviated the risk
445	of a serious incident or imminent physical harm, and (ii)
446	pharmacological restraints may be administered if soft restraints have
447	already been employed and have alleviated such risk;
448	(D) Ensure a medical professional checks the imposition of restraints
449	and every two hours thereafter checks to ensure adequate circulation
450	and range of movement to avoid pain and that a medical professional
451	continually monitors, through direct observation, such person while
452	such person is subject to restraints under this subsection;
453	(E) Continue de-escalation efforts; and
454	(F) End the use of seclusion or restraints on the incarcerated person
455	as soon as the threat of the serious incident or imminent physical harm
456	has passed.
457	(3) Only a therapist may order an incarcerated person to be subjected
458	to the use of restraints pursuant to this subsection. After an in-person
459	evaluation by a therapist of an incarcerated person and a determination
460	by the therapist that restraints are necessary to prevent a substantiated
461	threat of imminent physical harm by an incarcerated person to himself
462	or herself or others due to an acute disturbance of behavior, thought or
463	mood, the therapist may order such person to be subjected to restraints
464	for an initial period of not more than two hours. A therapist may only
465	order an incarcerated person to be subjected for an additional period of

- restraint that is not longer than two hours if such therapist, after an inperson evaluation, determines that restraints remain necessary to prevent a substantiated threat of imminent physical harm by an incarcerated person to himself or herself or others due to an acute disturbance of behavior, thought or mood.
- 471 (4) The department shall develop standards to enable staff members 472 to determine whether the use of restraints or seclusion is 473 contraindicated for each incarcerated person, based on such person's 474 medical and psychiatric status. The department shall inform each incarcerated person of their restraint or seclusion status and shall 475 476 maintain such person's restraint or seclusion status in a place easily 477 visible to staff members in the event that an emergency response is 478 necessary.
- (e) (1) Any time the department restrains or confines a person pursuant to subsection (b), (c) or (d) of this section, the department shall:
- 481 (A) Video and audio record each such incident from the moment the 482 use of restraints or confinement is imposed until the conclusion of such 483 usage; and
- 484 <u>(B) Document de-escalation methods attempted, the cause for the</u>
 485 <u>imposition of use of restraints or confinement and the method and</u>
 486 <u>duration of any restraint used.</u>
- 487 (2) The department shall retain any video or audio record or document created pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection for a period of not less than five years from the date of its creation.
 - [(b)] (f) The Department of Correction shall publish on its Internet web site (1) the formula for calculating an inmate's mental health score, [and] (2) a description of any form and phase of housing employed at any of its correctional facilities for [inmates on restrictive housing status] incarcerated persons held in isolated confinement, (3) any report pursuant to subsection (g) of this section, and (4) data used in such report in a downloadable, sortable format.

491

492

493

494

495

497	[(c)] (g) The Department of Correction shall at least annually submit
498	to the Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division established under
499	section 4-68m a report containing as [aggregated] disaggregated and
500	anonymized the following data:
E04	(4) FEI 1 (F:
501	(1) The number of [inmates on restrictive housing status] <u>incarcerated</u>
502	persons in isolated confinement in this state's correctional facilities, as
503	of the first day of each of the twelve months preceding the date of the
504	submission of the report [. The department shall report and
505	disaggregate such data based on an inmate's age, gender identity,
506	ethnicity, mental health score as calculated by the department, if any,
507	and the form and phase of housing in which such inmate is held on
508	restrictive housing status] and the total number of persons subjected to
509	isolated confinement during the twelve months preceding the date of
510	submission of the report;
511	[(2) The number of inmates on administrative segregation status who
512	have spent the following cumulative durations of time or
513	administrative segregation status:
010	uummastuur e segreguusti suutusi
514	(A) One to fifteen days;
545	(D) C:
515	(B) Sixteen to thirty days;
516	(C) Thirty-one to one hundred eighty days;
517	(D) One hundred eighty-one to three hundred sixty-five days;
518	(E) Three hundred sixty-six to seven hundred thirty days;
316	(E) Three hundred sixty-six to seven hundred thirty days,
519	(F) Seven hundred thirty-one to one thousand ninety-five days;
520	(G) One thousand ninety-six to one thousand four hundred sixty
521	days;

(H) One thousand four hundred sixty-one to one thousand eight

hundred twenty-five days;

524 525	(I) One thousand eight hundred twenty-six to two thousand one hundred ninety days;
526 527	(J) Two thousand one hundred ninety-one to two thousand five hundred fifty-five days;
528 529	(K) Two thousand five hundred fifty-six to two thousand nine hundred twenty days;
530 531	(L) Two thousand nine hundred twenty-one to three thousand two hundred eighty-five days;
532533	(M) Three thousand two hundred eighty-six to three thousand six hundred fifty days; and
534	(N) More than three thousand six hundred fifty days;
535	(3) For each correctional facility, the number of inmates who, during
536	the twelve months preceding the date of the submission of the report,
537	spent more than fifteen days, cumulative, on administrative segregation
538	status. The department shall report and disaggregate such data based
539	on an inmate's age, gender identity, ethnicity, mental health score as
540 541	calculated by the department, if any, and the form and phase of restricted housing in which such inmate is held;]
542	(2) A list of unique individuals in the custody of the department in
543	the twelve months preceding the date of the submission of the report
544	subjected to any form of isolated confinement. The list shall include the
545	following information for each person: Age, gender identity, ethnicity,
546	reason for placement in isolation, total number of days spent in isolated
547	confinement in the previous calendar year, total number of days spent
548	in isolated confinement over the course of the entire period of
549	incarceration, specific restrictive housing status, if any, and mental
550	health score as calculated by the department, if any;
551	(3) A list of unique individuals in the custody of the department in

the twelve months preceding the date of the submission of the report

553	subjected to restraints. The list shall include the following information		
554	for each person: Age, gender identity, ethnicity, total number of hours		
555	spent in restraints in the previous calendar year, specific restrictive		
556	housing status, if any, and mental health score as calculated by th		
557	department, if any;		
FF 0	(4) T1		
558	(4) The number of incidents, broken down by correctional facility, for		
559	each of the following in the previous calendar year and categorized as:		
560	(A) Suicides;		
561	(B) Attempted suicides;		
562	(C) Self-harm;		
563	(D) Use of force by staff members against incarcerated persons;		
564	(E) Assaults by incarcerated persons on staff members; and		
565	(F) Assaults between incarcerated persons.		
566	(5) The number of incarcerated persons subjected to more than		
567	seventy-two hours of isolated confinement in the previous calendar year		
568	as categorized by the following periods of time:		
569	(A) Up to fifteen days;		
			
570	(B) Sixteen to thirty days;		
571	(C) Thirty-one to seventy-nine days; or		
572	(D) Eighty or more days; and		
573	[(4)] (6) Actions taken by the department during the twelve months		
574	preceding the date of the submission of the report to minimize reliance		
575	on administrative segregation status and to mitigate the harmful effects		
576	of administrative segregation status on [inmates] incarcerated persons,		
577	staff members and the public.		

578	[(d)] (h) The department shall not hold any person under eighteen
579	years of age on administrative segregation status.

- [(e)] (i) Not later than January 1, [2019] 2021, the Commissioner of Correction shall study and submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to [the judiciary] corrections regarding the use and oversight of all forms and phases of housing for inmates on restrictive housing status.
- [(f)] (j) The provisions of subsections (a) to [(d)] (h), inclusive, of this section do not apply to any [inmate] incarcerated person described in subsection (a) of section 18-10b.
- [(g)] (k) Within available appropriations, the [Department of Correction] department shall provide training to employees of the department who interact with inmates concerning the following:
- 592 (1) The recognition of symptoms of mental illness;
- 593 (2) The potential risks and side effects of psychiatric medications;
- 594 (3) De-escalation techniques for safely managing individuals with 595 mental illness;
- 596 (4) Consequences of untreated mental illness;
- 597 (5) The long and short-term psychological effects of being on 598 administrative segregation status;
- 599 (6) The recognition of and techniques for mitigating trauma and vicarious trauma; and
- [(6)] (7) De-escalation and communication techniques to divert inmates from situations that may lead to the inmate being placed on administrative segregation status.
- [(h)] (1) Within available appropriations, the Department of

loyees of		
res may		
include, but need not be limited to:		
trauma-		
and the		
):		
visitation		
ne age of		
veek;		
person's		
<u>nmarried</u>		
criminal		
person's		
during a		
<u> </u>		
<u>a contact</u>		
a contact hich the		
hich the		
hich the clear and		
hich the clear and necessary		

633	(2) The department may not deprive an incarcerated person of
634	contact social visits provided for in this subsection for a period in excess
635	of ninety days.
636	(3) Any policies developed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
637	subsection for any incarcerated person who is a parent to a child under
638	the age of eighteen shall include, but need not be limited to, rules
639	regarding: [(1)] (A) Physical contact, [(2)] (B) convenience and frequency
640	of visits, and [(3)] (C) access to child-friendly visiting areas.
641	(4) For purposes of this subsection, "contact social visit" means an in-
642	person meeting between an incarcerated person and an approved
643	visitor who are not separated from each other by any physical divider,
644	including, but not limited to, a screen or partition.
645	(5) The provisions of this subsection do not apply to any incarcerated
646	person described in subsection (a) of section 18-10b.
647	(b) (1) The commissioner shall establish policies concerning mail to
648	and from incarcerated persons. Such policies shall:
649	(A) Provide that each incarcerated person may write, send and
650	receive letters, without limitation on the number of any such letters such
651	incarcerated person receives, or writes and sends at his or her own
652	personal expense, and
653	(B) Prohibit unnecessary delays in the processing of incoming and
654	outgoing mail to or from an incarcerated person.
655	(2) Each correctional facility commissary shall sell: (A) Stationery,
656	envelopes, postcards, greeting cards and postage; and (B) aerogramme
657	folding letters for foreign air mail letters.
658	(3) The department shall provide each incarcerated person the
659	following items free of charge:
660	(A) Materials and postage needed to send two social letters per week

661	(B) A writing instrument; and
662	(C) At least twenty sheets of writing paper, per month, and eight
663	letter-size envelopes with postage for eight letters per month, for
664	purposes including, but not limited to, social letters. Additional sheets
665	of paper for letters to the court or attorneys may be authorized upon
666	reasonable requests that demonstrate the need for such items by the
667	incarcerated person.
668	(4) The department may not deprive an incarcerated person the
669	ability to write, send or receive letters provided for in this subsection as
670	a matter of discipline, retaliation or convenience.
671	(c) (1) The commissioner shall establish policies concerning telephone
672	calls to and from incarcerated persons. Such policies shall:
673	(A) Ensure incarcerated persons may make or receive at least two
674	social phone calls per week;
675	(B) Ensure incarcerated persons may make telephone calls that last in
676	total time up to sixty minutes free of charge for social telephone calls
677	<u>and</u>
678	(C) Prohibit the department from depriving an incarcerated person
679	of telephone calls as provided for in this subsection as a matter of
680	discipline, retaliation or convenience.
681	Sec. 4. Subdivision (16) of section 31-275 of the general statutes is
682	repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October
683	1, 2021):
684	(16) (A) "Personal injury" or "injury" includes, in addition to
685	accidental injury that may be definitely located as to the time when and
686	the place where the accident occurred, an injury to an employee that is
687	causally connected with the employee's employment and is the direct
688	result of repetitive trauma or repetitive acts incident to such
689	employment, and occupational disease.

- (B) "Personal injury" or "injury" shall not be construed to include:
 - (i) An injury to an employee that results from the employee's voluntary participation in any activity the major purpose of which is social or recreational, including, but not limited to, athletic events, parties and picnics, whether or not the employer pays some or all of the cost of such activity;
 - (ii) A mental or emotional impairment, unless such impairment (I) arises from a physical injury or occupational disease, (II) in the case of a police officer of the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, an organized local police department or a municipal constabulary, or a correction officer employed by the Department of Correction, arises from such [police] officer's use of deadly force or subjection to deadly force in the line of duty, regardless of whether such [police] officer is physically injured, provided such [police] officer is the subject of an attempt by another person to cause such [police] officer serious physical injury or death through the use of deadly force, and such [police] officer reasonably believes such [police] officer to be the subject of such an attempt, or (III) in the case of a police officer, parole officer, correction officer or firefighter, is a diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder as defined in section 31-294k, as amended by this act, that meets all the requirements of section 31-294k, as amended by this act. As used in this clause, "in the line of duty" means any action that a police officer or correction officer is obligated or authorized by law, rule, regulation or written condition of employment service to perform, or for which the police officer, correction officer or firefighter is compensated by the public entity such officer serves;
 - (iii) A mental or emotional impairment that results from a personnel action, including, but not limited to, a transfer, promotion, demotion or termination; or
- 720 (iv) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (B)(i) of this subdivision, "personal injury" or "injury" includes injuries to employees

692

693

694

695

696

697

698

699

700

701

702

703

704

705

706

707

708

709710

711

712

713

714

715

716

717

718

- of local or regional boards of education resulting from participation in a
- 723 school-sponsored activity but does not include any injury incurred
- 724 while going to or from such activity. As used in this clause, "school-
- 725 sponsored activity" means any activity sponsored, recognized or
- authorized by a board of education and includes activities conducted on
- or off school property and "participation" means acting as a chaperone,
- advisor, supervisor or instructor at the request of an administrator with
- supervisory authority over the employee.
- 730 Sec. 5. Section 31-294k of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 731 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):
- 732 (a) As used in this section:
- 733 (1) "Correction officer" means a correction officer employed by the
- 734 Department of Correction;
- 735 [(1)] (2) "Firefighter" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-
- 736 313g;
- 737 [(2)] (3) "In the line of duty" means any action that a police officer,
- 738 parole officer, correction officer or firefighter is obligated or authorized
- 739 by law, rule, regulation or written condition of employment service to
- 740 perform, or for which the officer or firefighter is compensated by the
- 741 public entity such officer or firefighter serves, except that, in the case of
- 742 a volunteer firefighter, such action or service constitutes fire duties, as
- 743 defined in subsection (b) of section 7-314b;
- 744 [(3)] (4) "Mental health professional" means a board-certified
- psychiatrist or a psychologist licensed pursuant to chapter 383, who has
- 746 experience diagnosing and treating post-traumatic stress disorder;
- [(4)] (5) "Parole officer" means an employee of the Department of
- 748 Correction who supervises inmates in the community after their release
- from prison on parole or under another prison release program;
- 750 [(5)] (6) "Police officer" has the same meaning as provided in section

- 751 7-294a, except that "police officer" does not include an officer of a law
- 752 enforcement unit of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe or the Mohegan
- 753 Tribe of Indians of Connecticut;
- [(6)] (7) "Post-traumatic stress disorder" means a disorder that meets
- 755 the diagnostic criteria for post-traumatic stress disorder as specified in
- 756 the most recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association's
- 757 "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders"; and
- 758 [(7)] (8) "Qualifying event" means an event occurring in the line of
- 759 duty on or after July 1, 2019, in which a police officer, parole officer,
- 760 <u>correction officer</u> or firefighter:
- 761 (A) Views a deceased minor;
- (B) Witnesses the death of a person or an incident involving the death
- 763 of a person;
- 764 (C) Witnesses an injury to a person who subsequently dies before or
- upon admission at a hospital as a result of the injury and not as a result
- of any other intervening cause;
- 767 (D) Has physical contact with and treats an injured person who
- subsequently dies before or upon admission at a hospital as a result of
- 769 the injury and not as a result of any other intervening cause;
- (E) Carries an injured person who subsequently dies before or upon
- admission at a hospital as a result of the injury and not as a result of any
- 772 other intervening cause; or
- 773 (F) Witnesses a traumatic physical injury that results in the loss of a
- vital body part or a vital body function that results in permanent
- 775 disfigurement of the victim.
- 776 (b) A diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder is compensable as a
- personal injury as described in subparagraph (B)(ii)(III) of subdivision
- 778 (16) of section 31-275, as amended by this act, if a mental health

professional examines a police officer, parole officer, correction officer or firefighter and diagnoses the officer or firefighter with post-traumatic stress disorder as a direct result of a qualifying event, provided (1) the post-traumatic stress disorder resulted from the officer or firefighter acting in the line of duty and, in the case of a firefighter, such firefighter complied with Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act standards adopted pursuant to 29 CFR 1910.134 and 29 CFR 1910.156, (2) a qualifying event was a substantial factor in causing the disorder, (3) such qualifying event, and not another event or source of stress, was the primary cause of the post-traumatic stress disorder, and (4) the posttraumatic stress disorder did not result from any disciplinary action, work evaluation, job transfer, layoff, demotion, promotion, termination, retirement or similar action of the officer or firefighter. Any such mental health professional shall comply with any workers' compensation guidelines for approved medical providers, including, but not limited to, guidelines on release of past or contemporaneous medical records.

(c) Whenever liability to pay compensation is contested by the employer, the employer shall file with the commissioner, on or before the twenty-eighth day after the employer has received a written notice of claim, a notice in accordance with a form prescribed by the chairperson of the Workers' Compensation Commission stating that the right to compensation is contested, the name of the claimant, the name of the employer, the date of the alleged injury and the specific grounds on which the right to compensation is contested. The employer shall send a copy of the notice to the employee in accordance with section 31-321. If the employer or the employer's legal representative fails to file the notice contesting liability on or before the twenty-eighth day after receiving the written notice of claim, the employer shall commence payment of compensation for such injury on or before the twenty-eighth day after receiving the written notice of claim, but the employer may contest the employee's right to receive compensation on any grounds or the extent of the employee's disability within one hundred eighty days from the receipt of the written notice of claim and any benefits paid during the one hundred eighty days shall be considered payments

779 780

781

782

783

784

785

786

787

788

789

790

791

792

793

794

795

796

797

798

799

800

801

802

803

804

805

806

807

808

809

810

811

without prejudice, provided the employer shall not be required to commence payment of compensation when the written notice of claim has not been properly served in accordance with section 31-321 or when the written notice of claim fails to include a warning that the employer (1) if the employer has commenced payment for the alleged injury on or before the twenty-eighth day after receiving a written notice of claim, shall be precluded from contesting liability unless a notice contesting liability is filed within one hundred eighty days from the receipt of the written notice of claim, and (2) shall be conclusively presumed to have accepted the compensability of the alleged injury unless the employer either files a notice contesting liability on or before the twenty-eighth day after receiving a written notice of claim or commences payment for the alleged injury on or before such twenty-eighth day. An employer shall be entitled, if the employer prevails, to reimbursement from the claimant of any compensation paid by the employer on and after the date the commissioner receives written notice from the employer or the employer's legal representative, in accordance with the form prescribed by the chairperson of the Workers' Compensation Commission, stating that the right to compensation is contested. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, an employer who fails to contest liability for an alleged injury on or before the twenty-eighth day after receiving a written notice of claim and who fails to commence payment for the alleged injury on or before such twenty-eighth day, shall be conclusively presumed to have accepted the compensability of the alleged injury. If an employer has opted to post an address of where notice of a claim for compensation by an employee shall be sent, as described in subsection (a) of section 31-294c, the twenty-eight-day period set forth in this subsection shall begin on the date when such employer receives written notice of a claim for compensation at such posted address.

(d) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, workers' compensation benefits for any police officer, parole officer, correction officer or firefighter for a personal injury described in subparagraph (B)(ii)(III) of subdivision (16) of section 31-275, as amended by this act, shall (1) include any combination of medical treatment prescribed by a

813

814

815

816

817

818

819

820

821

822

823

824

825

826

827

828

829

830

831

832

833

834

835

836

837

838

839

840

841

842

843844

845

board-certified psychiatrist or a licensed psychologist, temporary total 847 848 incapacity benefits under section 31-307 and temporary partial 849 incapacity benefits under subsection (a) of section 31-308, and (2) be provided for a maximum of fifty-two weeks from the date of diagnosis. 850 851 No medical treatment, temporary total incapacity benefits under section 852 31-307 or temporary partial incapacity benefits under subsection (a) of 853 section 31-308 shall be awarded beyond four years from the date of the 854 qualifying event that formed the basis for the personal injury. The 855 weekly benefits received by an officer or a firefighter pursuant to section 856 31-307 or subsection (a) of section 31-308, when combined with other 857 benefits including, but not limited to, contributory and noncontributory 858 retirement benefits, Social Security benefits, benefits under a long-term 859 or short-term disability plan, but not including payments for medical 860 care, shall not exceed the average weekly wage paid to such officer or 861 firefighter. An officer or firefighter receiving benefits pursuant to this 862 subsection shall not be entitled to benefits pursuant to subsection (b) of 863 section 31-308 or section 31-308a.

- Sec. 6. Section 31-294h of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):
- Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, workers' compensation benefits for any <u>correction officer or</u> police officer, as described in subparagraph (B)(ii)(II) of subdivision (16) of section 31-275, <u>as amended by this act</u>, who suffers a mental or emotional impairment arising from such [police] officer's use of deadly force or subjection to deadly force in the line of duty, shall be limited to treatment by a psychologist or a psychiatrist who is on the approved list of practicing physicians established by the chairperson of the Workers' Compensation Commission pursuant to section 31-280.
- Sec. 7. Section 7-294ff of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):
- 877 (a) Not later than January 1, [2020] <u>2022</u>, the Police Officer Standards 878 and Training Council, established under section 7-294b, the Department

864865

866

867

868

869

870

871

872

873

of Correction and the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control shall develop and promulgate a model critical incident and peer support policy to support the mental health care and wellness of police officers, as defined in section 7-294a, parole officers, as defined in section 31-294k, as amended by this act, correction officers employed by the Department of Correction and firefighters, as defined in section 31-294k, as amended by this act.

(b) Not later than July 1, [2020] 2022, each law enforcement unit as defined in section 7-294a, the Department of Correction as employer of parole officers and correction officers, each municipal or state paid or volunteer fire department and each municipal entity employing a fire marshal, deputy fire marshal, fire investigator, fire inspector or other class of investigator or inspector for whom the State Fire Marshal and the Codes and Standards Committee, acting jointly, have adopted minimum standards of qualification pursuant to section 29-298, shall (1) adopt and maintain a written policy that meets or exceeds the standards of the model policy developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section; (2) make peer support available to such officers and firefighters; and (3) refer an officer or firefighter, as appropriate, seeking mental health care services to a mental health professional, as defined in section 31-294k, as amended by this act.

Sec. 8. Section 18-82a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

In consultation with the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, the Department of Correction shall provide resilience and self-care technique training for each parole officer, as defined in section 31-294k, as amended by this act, hired on or after January 1, 2020, and each correction officer hired on or after January 1, 2022.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following			
sections:			
Section 1	October 1, 2021	18-81jj	

Sec. 2	July 1, 2022	18-96b
Sec. 3	October 1, 2021	18-81gg
Sec. 4	October 1, 2021	31-275(16)
Sec. 5	October 1, 2021	31-294k
Sec. 6	October 1, 2021	31-294h
Sec. 7	October 1, 2021	7-294ff
Sec. 8	October 1, 2021	18-82a

JUD Joint Favorable Subst.

APP Joint Favorable